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EXAMINER	
LAM, VINH TANG	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/566,330	KNOTT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	VINH T. LAM	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *29 January 2010*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *27 January 2006* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *01/29/2010*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims **1-15** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Willmore (US PGPub. No. 2003/0179156)** in view of **Honkonen et al. (US Patent No. 6681764)**.

Regarding Claim **1**, (Currently amended) **Willmore** teaches a display and control device for medical equipment (*Title of Invention, i.e. … for displaying **goods and services***), including units connectable to an electric bus, the display and control device *([**0043**], FIG. **1**, i.e. **11**)* comprising:

■plurality of display/control units *([**0043**], FIG. **1**, i.e. **14** & **31**)*, each display/control unit including:

●a display device *([**0043**], FIG. **1**, i.e. **14**)* having a plurality of activatable pixels *([**0043**], FIG. **1**, i.e. **liquid crystal, LED, or Electro-luminescent**)*,

●a display activation device which activates the pixels of the display device on the basis of data supplied *([**0054**], FIG. **5**, i.e. inherently comprised of vertical and horizontal drivers inside **liquid crystal, LED, or Electro-luminescent**)*

●a transparent input device disposed on a surface of the display device that is to face an observer *([**0044**], [**0053**], FIGs. **1** & **5**, i.e. **31**)*,

●an input evaluation device which evaluates inputs made via the input device *([**0044**], i.e. **17** or **18 may in one embodiment be arranged as a touch screen**; [**0053**], FIG. **5**, i.e. processors **18** serve to distribute data between a central server, such as the computer 26 and the individual display screens **14**)*, and

●a unit connector *([**0040**], FIG. **6**, i.e. **rack mount**)* with which the display activation device and the input evaluation device are connected and by which the display/control unit can be connected to an electric bus *([**0053**], [**0054**], FIGs. **5** & **6**, i.e. **41**)*, and

■a base unit *([**0045**], FIG. **2**, i.e. **video wall 18**)* on which the plurality of display/control units are arranged, the base unit including:

●an electric bus for the communication of the display/control units connected thereto *([**0053**], [**0054**], FIGs. **5** & **6**, i.e. **41**)*,

●a plurality of connector devices *([**0040**], FIG. **5**, i.e. **processors 18**)* at which [[the]] respective display/control [[unit]] units can be connected to the electric bus via the unit connector *([**0053**], [**0054**], FIGs. **5** & **6**, i.e. **41**)*, and

●a configuration device *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **26** comprises CPU **51,** MUX CTR. **23**, & MUX **24**)* which is connected with the electric bus *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **52** & **41**)* and which, after connection of [[the]] a display/control unit to the electric bus, transmits to the display/control unit configuration data determining display contents and input areas of the display/control unit via the electric bus *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **52**; [**0053**], [**0054**], FIGs. **5** & **6**, i.e. **41**)*.

However, **Willmore** does not teach wherein the configuration data further comprises an identification of a medical unit connectable to the electric bus from which data values are to be received, a criteria for evaluating the received data values and a format for displaying a result of the evaluation of the received data values.

In the same field of endeavor, **Honkonen et al.** teach the configuration data further comprises an identification of a medical unit *(i.e. **parameters** or information from input sensors, output valves , modes of operations, and the indicator interfacing with the controller; Col. **6**, Ln. **22-52**, FIGs. **1, 6, & 8-11**)*, connectable to the electric bus from which data values are to be received, a criteria for evaluating the received data values *(Col. **10**, Ln. **25-32**, FIG. **6**; Col. **10**, Ln. **57-58**, FIG. **8**; Col. **11**, Ln. **1-5**, FIG. **9**; Col. **11**, Ln. **11-13**, FIG. **10**; and Col. **11**, Ln. **25-27**, FIG. **11**)* and a format for displaying a result of the evaluation of the received data values *(Col. **10**, Ln. **25-42**, FIG. **6**).*

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine **Willmore** teaching of a display and control device for medical equipment comprising plurality of display/control units including a display device, a display activation device, a transparent input device, an input evaluation device, a unit connector, and a base unit including an electric bus, a plurality of connector devices, a configuration device with **Honkonen et al.** teaching of the configuration data further comprises an identification of a medical unit, other data, and format *to improve faster, easier, and enhancing the interaction and operability between user and input/output devices*.

Regarding Claim **2**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches for each of the connector devices of the base unit, it is determined in the configuration device which configuration data are transmitted to a display/control unit connected to a respective connector device *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **26** comprises CPU **51,** MUX CTR. **23**, & MUX **24**)*.

Regarding Claim **3**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches in the configuration device the configuration data transmitted to connected display/control units are determined depending on the sequence in which the display/control units are connected to the base unit *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **26** comprises CPU **51,** MUX CTR. **23**, & MUX **24**)*.

Regarding Claim **4**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches several areas to display display contents *([**0043**], FIG. **1**)* and to receive inputs are logically defined in the display device of the display/control unit *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **26** comprises CPU **51,** MUX CTR. **23**, & MUX **24**)*.

Regarding Claim **5**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 4, wherein **Willmore** teaches several of the logical areas are combinable to form a connected area *([**0053**], [**0054**], FIGs. **5** & **6**, i.e. **8** processors to **4** processors)*.

Regarding Claim **6**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches the at least one display/control unit includes several display/control devices that are constructed identically *([**0043**], FIG. **1**)*.

Regarding Claim **7**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches the display/control unit is fixed to the base unit by way of the connection between the unit connector and the connector device *([**0040**], FIG. **6**, i.e. **rack mount**)*.

Regarding Claim **8**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 7, wherein **Willmore** teaches the display/control unit is fixed on the base unit via additional fixing elements *([**0045**], FIG. **2**, i.e. **video wall 18**)*.

Regarding Claim **9**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches data for displaying digits, numbers and map pixels are stored in the display activation device of the display/control unit *([**0054**], FIG. **5**, [**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. obviously pixels information latched into horizontal and vertical drivers)*.

Regarding Claim **10**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches the display/control unit and the configuration device are arranged such that data for display contents can be transmitted to the display/control unit by the configuration device and stored in the display/control unit *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **26** comprises CPU **51**, MUX CTR. **23**, & MUX **24**)*.

Regarding Claim **11**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 10, wherein **Willmore** teaches the display/control unit informs the configuration device of which data for display contents are stored in the display activation device *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **26** comprises drive **53**)*.

Regarding Claim **12**, (Previously presented) the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein **Willmore** teaches the display/control unit includes a bus communication device via which the display activation device and the input evaluation device are connected to the bus *([**0053**], [**0054**], FIGs. **5** & **6**, i.e. **41**)*.

Regarding Claim **13**, (Previously presented) **Willmore** and **Honkonen et al.** teach the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein no further control elements are provided which is an obvious Choice of Design having all features for all functions needed to reduce cost and design complexity.

Regarding Claim **14**, (Previously presented) **Willmore** and **Honkonen et al.** teach the display and control device according to claim 1, wherein apart from an on/off switch which is obviously provided in display and control device to preserve the power when not needed, no further control elements are provided which is an obvious Choice of Design having all features for all functions needed to reduce cost and design complexity.

Regarding Claim **15**, (Previously presented) a display/control unit adapted for use in a display and control device according to claim 1 is taught by **Willmore** and **Honkonen et al.** as shown above.

Response to Arguments/Amendments/Remarks

2. Applicant's arguments, see Page(s) 6 filed 01/29/2010, with respect to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been fully considered and are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that "…Honkonen does not teach a display/control unit…", therefore, "…a configuration device…" can not transmit "…configuration data to a display/control unit …". Furthermore, "…Willmore contains no disclosure or suggestion of a configuration device that transmits configuration data to the display/control unit…".

However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees because the ***combination*** of **Willmore** and **Honkonen et al.** teach all the limitations of Claim 1. Specifically,

Willmore teaches all of the limitations of Claim 1 including "a configuration device *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **26** comprises CPU **51,** MUX CTR. **23**, & MUX **24**)* which is connected with the electric bus *([**0055**], FIG. **7**, i.e. **52** & **41**)*" and

Honkonen et al. teach the configuration data further comprises an identification of a medical unit *(i.e. **parameters** or information from input sensors, output valves , modes of operations, and the indicator interfacing with the controller; Col. **6**, Ln. **22-52**, FIGs. **1, 6, & 8-11**)*, connectable to the electric bus from which data values are to be received, a criteria for evaluating the received data values *(Col. **10**, Ln. **25-32**, FIG. **6**; Col. **10**, Ln. **57-58**, FIG. **8**; Col. **11**, Ln. **1-5**, FIG. **9**; Col. **11**, Ln. **11-13**, FIG. **10**; and Col. **11**, Ln. **25-27**, FIG. **11**).* Please see the above rejections for detail.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VINH T. LAM whose telephone number is (571) 270-3704. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00-4:30) EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amare Mengistu can be reached on (571) 272-7674. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-270-4704.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vinh T Lam/
Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Amare Mengistu/
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